

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The present invention relates to pharmaceutical compositions and methods to improve expression of exogenous polypeptides into vertebrate cells *in vivo*, utilizing delivery of polynucleotides encoding such polypeptides. More particularly, the present invention provides the use of salts, in particular sodium and potassium salts of phosphate, in aqueous solution, and auxiliary agents, in particular detergents and surfactants, in pharmaceutical compositions and methods useful for direct polynucleotide-based polypeptide delivery into the cells of vertebrates.

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